

## SCHOOL FOR HOUSEWIVES---By Marion Harland



"THE AMERICAN GIRL AT THE CORONATION OF EDWARD VII."—BEGINNING THE SEA VOYAGE  
BY MALCOLM STRAUSS

## THE HOUSEWIFE'S EXCHANGE

"CAN you or any of your readers tell me how to get rid of centipedes, or prevent them from coming? Ever since we have lived in this house they come as soon as warm weather sets in. They are in my bedroom only. I am deadly afraid of them and really dread summer. In this room we have inside shutters that slide back into the wall, and it seems to me the centipedes come from there. I never saw such large ones! They come out at night. Through the day you can't see any trace of them. I thought perhaps you might be able to tell me what would prevent them, as you seem to be able to answer all kinds of queer questions."

"Is there any way for me to clean the satins covering of two of my down quilts? They are quite soiled, yet the covering is perfectly good. If so I should like to clean them before putting them away this spring."

"I think I read in your column how to polish water spots off brass with kerosene oil, also to clean old gilt picture frames. Am I right?"

There is no doubt that your tormentors come from the wall through the grooves in which the shutters work. Occupy some other room for a night, and before dark take a clean new oil can, such as comes with a sewing machine; charge it with gasoline and inject it freely as far as it will go into these same grooves. Then close the room tightly and do not enter it until morning. If you would make assurance doubly sure, follow up the gasoline by a shower of red pepper blown from an insect powder bellows. Should one or two exceptionally stout fellows survive the treatment, repeat it on another night."

"If the satins are of close, fine texture, so that the flour will not pass through to the down within, rub them all over with dry flour, and leave them thus covered for some hours, then beat and brush and lay away. Powdered chalk is also good for dry cleansing."

"You are right. Wet a soft flannel cloth with kerosene, wipe the frames quickly and follow with chamomile skin."

"In answer to several inquiries on your page, with regard to the washing of ribbons, I have the following information to offer, trusting that it may be of some value. Place the ribbons (satin or taffeta) in a basin of warm water to which about a teaspoonful of household ammonia has been added. Use white soap plentifully, and rub the ribbons between the hands, the same as a soiled handkerchief, until the dirt has disappeared. Rinse well, and press water out by drawing ribbon through fingers. Then lay it, still very wet, beneath clean white cloth, and rub a hot iron on this until ribbon is partially dry, when the iron can be applied to the ribbon itself. I always iron ribbon on both sides, and if it is ironed 'hard,' it will make the ribbon very soft and almost like new. I have worn ribbons for years and am frequently complimented as to their never-fading freshness."

"Now, dear Editor, I wonder if you can help me! Could you not ask through your column the advice and experience of women troubled with that soul-harassing affliction—superfluous hair? It is a subject that can't be broached to one's friends, and one is so alone in a trouble that fairly gnaws at the heart! Of course, I know there is no permanent relief, but there are many ways of lessening the affliction, and some women have undoubtedly gained valuable knowledge through bitter experience. If you would make this an 'open question' on your page, I can assure you you would have many eager, grateful readers, and none more deeply thankful than

"MADAM CARMENCITA."

There is a permanent cure for the "affliction" you speak of so bitterly. The electric needle, in the hands of a skillful specialist, will kill the roots of the hair. While this matter belongs to Mrs. Henry Symes' department, I am too grateful for the valuable addition to our exchange conveyed in the early part of your letter, and too much moved by the earnestness

## PRETTY DOILY OF DRAWN WORK

DRAWN work is one of the most ancient forms of embroidery, and beautiful specimens of that kind of work are shown in almost every museum of Europe, relics of times long past."

It is very much in favor of late years, especially for table and bedroom linen, and will be found delightful work for the long summer afternoons."

Canvas, scrim and linen, this last especially, are used for drawn work; the working thread is Scotch linen floss, which can be had in white and in all colors."

The pattern illustrated is for a centerpiece doily or a sideboard scarf. It may be done all in white, but is very pretty made in colors."

Take a piece of coarse linen and draw warp and woof threads away, so as to form a succession of squares. Leave 20 threads between each square of 40 threads. Buttonhole round the outer edge of the drawn part of the work with colored linen floss; then work a little lace stitch."

Thread the needle with colored floss, fasten it firmly to the edge and loop it twice into the side of one square, and when it comes to where the threads are left, divide them in half and loop it through one-half of them. Cross the thread over the thick, undrawn parts and continue to loop it twice in every side of the square until all of the squares are worked around and all the left threads secured."

Then work the ornamental wheel in the centres of the open squares upon the loops. Make the wheels of three buttonholes close together, with a space left between the ones made and the three next to be worked. Three buttonholes are worked in every loop, eight forming a wheel."

When the centre is completed make a wide hemstitch, either the double hemstitch proper or the ladder, as is the case in the illustration. Work a spider in each of the four corners."

"I saw in your column lately a request for something that would certainly remove parasites from the hair. Nothing is better than fishberries steeped in alcohol—the liquor to be rubbed in the hair. Blue mercurial ointment may also be used with care. Both are efficacious and both are poisonous and should be used with caution."

J. D."

"Can you tell me if there is anything that will take ink stain out of a white counterpane? The counterpane has been washed. The ink stain was dry before it was put into the water."

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Oxalic acid will do it, and chlorinated soda, and cyanide of potassium. If you use a liquid acid, wet the stain with it and lay in the sun for two hours. Wash with borax water, and repeat the acid if a faint stain is left. Cyanide of potassium is a powder. Wet the spot with pure water, rub in the powder and sun as directed."

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I can recommend nothing which would not also take the color out of the kid. You can, however, have the gloves dyed."

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